



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Reps. Knodl and Macco Want Essential Caregivers to have Access to Loved Ones

Madison... Reps. Dan Knodl (R-Germantown) and John Macco (R-Ledgeview) issued the following statements calling for legislative changes to grant essential caregivers access to loved ones confined in healthcare facilities.

A recent story by WISN 12 in Milwaukee highlighted a growing issue related to family members being prevented from advocating for their loved ones who are currently receiving treatment in inpatient facilities. You can view the story here, <https://bit.ly/2TAq72O>. Many reports have also highlighted the detrimental effects this lack of access has on the patient as well as their families.

"Family members who are integral parts of their loved ones care teams should be allowed to help them," said Rep. Knodl. "I will be authoring legislation to ensure that these family caregivers are not shut out of the care plans for their loved ones."

Other states like Texas and Minnesota have made simple rule changes to accommodate for these situations. In these states, patients are able to designate family members as essential caregivers who take an active role in providing care for residents of these facilities.

"My late father was moved into a healthcare facility this past February and we could only see him during window visits until he passed in May," said Rep. Macco. "I know my family, like many Wisconsin families, would have given anything to assist with his care like we had for years, and for one of us to have been there during his final moments. I look forward to supporting legislation that will recognize family caregivers as essential to the health and well-being of their loved ones."

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